## **REMARKS**

Entry and consideration of the above amendments prior to a first Official Action on the merits are respectfully requested.

Claims 16-41 are pending in the Application. Claims 1-15 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer.

An early and favorable first Action on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Pillsbury Winthrop LLP

Henry

Reg. No.: 42,459

Tel. No. (202) 775-9832

Fax No.: (703) 905-2500

HJD/KG 1600 Tysons Boulevard McLean, VA 22102 (703) 905-2000